

REMARKS

Claims 8-40 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 8-11 are amended, claims 1-7 are canceled, and claims 12-40 are added. Reconsideration of the present application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Patent Publication No. 07-282468 to Shimizu; and provisionally rejects claims 1-11 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 6, 10, 11, 14 and 15 of co-pending Application No. 10/103,113.

Claims 1-7 have been canceled. As such, the Office Action's rejection of claims 1-7 over Shimizu is moot.

Claims 6, 10, 11, 14 and 15 of co-pending Application No. 10/103,113 have been canceled. As such, the provisional rejection of claims 1-11 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting is moot.

Claim 8 has been amended and claims 15, 17 and 18 added. These claims recite that a radially innermost edge of a recess is positioned at a distance of 0.965d from a center of a substrate or further. New dependent claims respectively reciting the distance features 0.975d and 0.983d, and corresponding to dependent claims 9-11 have also been added. The applied prior art does not disclose these features, and for at least this reason the pending claims are allowable. Further, Applicants note that new claims 18, 29 and 40 correspond to former claim 14 in co-pending application 10/103,113. Claim 14 was allowed in that application, but has now been cancelled.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Jude L. Cooney
Registration No. 54,045

JAO:JLC/aaw

Attachment:
Amendment Transmittal

Date: **June 2, 2004**

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
--